

9 AUG 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Support

SUBJECT : Administrative Authorities--Travel and Transportation Expenses

REFERENCES : a. Memo for ExDir-Comp fr DD/S dtd 29 Apr 68, same subject

b. Memo for ExDir-Comp fr DD/S dtd 21 May 68, same subject

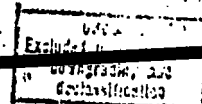
1. This memorandum is for your information and recommends a position to be taken by you in response to an informal query by the Executive Director-Comptroller.

2. In paragraph 3.b. of DDS 68-2344, dated 26 June 1968, you asked the Director of Finance to consider the extension of the authorities approved by the Executive Director-Comptroller in referent memoranda, for employees in the CIA Retirement and Disability System, to groups or categories of Agency personnel outside the CIA System. The Director of Finance deferred to me for the development of this policy position.

3. I have reviewed the subject in great depth and have reached the conclusion that this benefit should be restricted to members of the CIARDS as the identifiable Foreign Service Group in the Agency, comparable to the Foreign Service Corps of the Department of State from which source the statutory authority is derived. Only by so restricting this benefit will the Agency have a completely logical, defensible program, simple to operate on a continuing basis. This conclusion was reached after considering the advantages and disadvantages in each of the several options available, ranging from the payment of travel benefits to all employees subject to overseas service to retention of the present policy.

4. The Administrative Authorities Committee which originated the recommendation leading to our adoption of this benefit considered the extension to personnel retiring under the Civil Service System. I believe the Committee was on sound ground when it asserted that it was necessary to confine this benefit to employees who have actually performed the qualifying service which earned for them participation in the CIARDS in order to justify adoption of this Department of State authority which is not available to the Department's Civil Service retirees. Extension of the travel payment to designated Civil Service retirees within the Agency would create a preferential benefit, unique in the Federal Service.

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5. Even if the Agency were prepared to provide this benefit for Civil Service retirees, we would still have the problem of administering a program based on arbitrary qualifications standards. To extend the benefit to those who served PCS tours of 24 or 36 months overseas would leave us with large groups who had slightly less overseas duty or had TDY service for which they would want credit. Extending eligibility to those "subject to rotational assignment" would not only appear to be contrary to the intent of the authority we have adopted but could encompass the great majority of Agency employees and would require case-by-case decisions by the determining authority.

6. If there are truly individuals or groups of individuals outside of the CIARDS who are deserving of this travel benefit, it would appear logical that the very nature of the duty which makes them deserving would also qualify them for participation in the CIARDS. The course we should follow, therefore, is to restrict the benefit to members of the CIARDS but encourage the transfer into CIARDS of all personnel whose duties are markedly different from normal Civil Service employment.

/s/ Robert S. Wattles

Robert S. Wattles
Director of Personnel

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